

Sudanese talks continue

ADAMS ABABA (AP) — Rebels and Sudanese government officials Sunday held the second day of talks in an attempt to end a six-year civil war in Sudan. The talks, which began Saturday, were held in a hotel in the capital, Khartoum. The rebels, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), are led by John Garang. The government is led by President Nimeiri. The talks are being mediated by the United Nations. The SPLA has been fighting the government since 1983. The government has been accused of human rights abuses. The SPLA has been accused of looting and killing. The talks are expected to continue for several more days.

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Hassan II, Polisario to meet

ROME (R) — Polisario guerrillas fighting for the independence of the Western Sahara Sunday announced fresh peace talks with King Hassan II of Morocco. The Polisario Front said it would meet with the king in Morocco. The king has been trying to negotiate a peace settlement with the Polisario. The Polisario has been fighting the Moroccan army since 1975. The king has been accused of human rights abuses. The Polisario has been accused of terrorism. The talks are expected to continue for several more days.

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Warrant, arrest spark collision course with U.S., Britain

Peking pursues full-fledged purge

PEKING (Agencies) — China courted the wrath of Washington and London Sunday by ordering the arrest of a U.S.-protected dissident and detaining a Hong Kong student activist with a British travel document amid a continuing crackdown on pro-democracy activists.

As the round-up of pro-democracy militants gathered pace around the country, police issued an arrest warrant in Peking for dissident astrophysicist Fang Lizhi and his wife Li Shuxian, who have sought refuge in the U.S. embassy.

The warrant said Fang, 52, and Li committed "crimes of counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement" before and during the student-led protests crushed last weekend.

Hundreds of people, perhaps thousands, were killed when martial law troops quashed a student-led occupation of Peking's Tiananmen Square.

In China, the charge of counter-revolutionary activity is tantamount to treason. A previous democracy campaigner, Xu Wenli, was sentenced in 1982 to 15 years in jail on counter-revolutionary charges.

The U.S. State Department in Washington said the U.S. author-

ities would not normally hand over a dissident in danger of being killed.

"Whenever we have a person we feel is in imminent danger of death, we would give them shelter in the embassy," a spokeswoman said.

An Asian diplomat in Peking commented: "If the Chinese are foolish enough to try and use force to bring Fang and his wife out, then it would be disastrous for relations with the U.S."

In Shanghai, British officials sought clarification of the arrest of a Hong Kong student activist who was detained as he was about to board a flight for the British colony.

Shanghai Radio said Yao Yongzhan, who was accompanied to the airport by British consular staff, was leader of the banned "autonomous union of Shanghai college students."

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Yao was under

investigation for violating local regulations.

Shanghai authorities said earlier they had arrested the leader of a "counter-revolutionary clique" called the China Youth Democratic Party, Weng Zhengming, and Yao.

They said Yao was arrested at the Shanghai airport as he tried to board a Hong Kong-bound plane and was "in the company of personnel of the consulate of a certain country." They did not identify the country. Shanghai Radio said Yao was carrying unidentified "restricted articles."

Television news broadcasts showed dozens of other people being arrested and questioned by police at gunpoint in various cities. Many looked as if they had been beaten, and the face of one man, identified as a leader in an independent labour union, was swollen so badly he could barely open his eyes.

The government has announced the arrest of only one Peking student leader, Guo Haifeng, the secretary of an independent student group that organised marches and a hunger strike by tens of thousands of college students. Other Peking student leaders were in hiding.

A heavy troop presence in Peking and an intense propaganda campaign already had ended the nationwide protests, and news of the warrants

came as the government intensified its hunt for alleged ringleaders and instigators.

The U.S. television network ABC quoted Chinese sources as saying police arrested another leading dissident, Ren Wandong, and confiscated copies of essays he had written criticising the government.

It said the sources reported six plainclothes police went to Ren's home Saturday night and told him, "we must discuss with you a few problems." Ren, 44, an accountant, was jailed from 1979 to 1983 for helping lead an earlier pro-democracy movement and began distributing essays to foreign reporters late last year calling for democratic reforms.

Peking Communist Party chief Li Xiang reportedly named him as an instigator of the student movement in a report to the central government May 19, and Ren had told foreign reporters he feared arrest.

Official media issued chilling warnings to pro-democracy activists to disband their organisations and rally behind the rule of a 84-year-old paramount leader Deng Xiaoping.

The People's Daily, Communist Party mouthpiece, lavished praise on Deng as the saviour of the party and nation.

The arrest warrant issued against Fang, China's best known dissident, was likely to fuel a crisis between China's hardline leadership and Washington.

The Bush administration last week blocked military sales to Peking in protest at the bloody suppression of the pro-democracy movement.



Resident look for relatives among the dead after the June 3 army assault in Peking

Bad weather cited for Khairallah air crash

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Bad weather caused a helicopter crash in which Iraqi Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah was killed last month, an official report said Sunday.

The report, published in Iraqi newspapers, said Khairallah's helicopter was "in an unusual position because of bad weather associated with sandstorms and bad visibility" during a flight May 5.

It said the 49-year-old minister was first pilot aboard the U.S.-made Bell helicopter, flying to Baghdad from northern Iraq.

The report ruled out an explosion or technical problem with the aircraft and said that the crew told ground controllers before the accident that the helicopter was landing because of bad weather.

Khairallah was a brother-in-law and cousin of President Saddam Hussein. He was replaced as defence minister by General Abdul Jabbar Shamsi, formerly minister of state for military affairs.

An air force co-pilot and five other people, including three bodyguards, were also on the aircraft when it crashed.

The report said the helicopter went down near the village of Kweir, near the main Mosul-Kirkuk road, in an uncultivated area inhabited by bedouin tribes.

The report said the Meteorological Department at the Firass air base had warned of possible sandstorms and bad visibility in the northern areas of Iraq.

Radio recordings indicated it took off at 3:35 p.m. (11:35 GMT) but then made an emergency landing near the Kweir area because of bad weather.

It took off again to return to Mosul but the pilot radioed he was going to make another emergency landing in the Kweir area as the weather deteriorated.

The helicopter crashed at 5:35 p.m. (1:35 GMT) at high speed after losing radio contact, and spread wreckage over a wide area, the report said.

The investigating committee included representatives of the army transportation staff, the air force and air defence command, military intelligence and general security service, the Iraqi intelligence agency and the military's technical department.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the investigators examined debris, as well as radar data, recordings of radio contacts between the chopper and the Firass air base, and eyewitness reports.

Israelis lift Gaza curfew; another Palestinian dies

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army Sunday lifted one of the longest curfews imposed on 700,000 Gaza Strip residents in the 18-month Palestinian uprising, and a Palestinian teenager died of a gunshot wound suffered in a clash with Israeli soldiers.

Some 650,000 Palestinians were freed from a week of near-total confinement to their homes but 55,000 in Jabalya refugee camp remained under curfew. Troops at the camp shot dead an eight-year-old boy Saturday and wounded a 15-year-old who died Sunday.

Palestinians named the latest victim as Mohammad Lubad. At least 514 Palestinians have died in the uprising.

Thousands of workers left Gaza for jobs in Israel for the first time since the curfew was imposed. Many carried new army-issued computerised permits aimed at spotting activists.

Palestinians reported clashes with troops in Ramallah near Jerusalem and elsewhere in the West Bank.

In Tel Aviv's Jewish suburb of Petah Tikva, about 100 people demonstrated against the planned opening of a terminal for Palestinian workers from Gaza and the West Bank.

They accused Petah Tikva of

racism in confining Arabs to a specific location where Jewish employers could pick them up and drop them off.

The station was to be used starting Sunday, but a town spokesman said it was delayed while town council members debated the controversial plan. Police have objected to the plan, challenging its legality.

Opponents described the holding area as racist and reminiscent of South African apartheid. "We didn't believe they would use it," said Shirley Eran, a member of the 21st year group that organised the demonstration. "It is shocking to think they would."

Eight Israeli peace activists who attended a meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representatives in June 1987 were charged in an Israeli court Sunday with violating Israel's anti-terror law.

The charge sheet said the eight went to Hungary and met PLO representatives. At the meeting, they discussed political matters without authorisation and attended a festive banquet with the PLO members, it said.

Hundreds of Israeli demonstrators in five Israeli towns Saturday against what they called a mounting wave of anti-Arab racism among Jewish Israelis.

Marchers in Taibe and Sakhrin

raised Palestinian flags but later removed them. Israeli television said. Arab legislators and heads of local councils addressed 500 peaceful protesters in Umm Al Fahm carrying signs denouncing racism.

"It is a protest against the attacks and incitement against Arabs in Israel," legislator Abdul Wahab Darawash told Reuters before the march.

"Politicians, individuals, rabbis, they are trying to whip up panic in the Jewish public... we are against bringing more violence into the country."

The family of a Palestinian woman jailed since November appealed for her release, saying she was seriously ill with hepatitis and anaemia and could die unless she received proper care.

"My daughter, my only daughter is fighting... death in Tel Mond prison. I entreat you to raise your voices along with mine, a voice choked with pain and uncertainty regarding my daughter's fate," said Siham Bishara Boullata, mother of 23-year-old Terry Boullata.

Prison spokeswoman Shuli Meiri said a specialist had examined Boullata, who is awaiting trial, and would make a recommendation to the court but only a judge could decide to release her.

Both sides claim win in Kanak elections

NOUMEA (R) — Kanak separatists and white settlers in the troubled French South Pacific territory of New Caledonia both claimed victory Sunday in regional elections aimed at giving islanders a taste of independence.

The Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) won control of two of three regional assemblies which come into being July 14, but the RPCR party, which wants New Caledonia to remain French, won a majority in the territorial overall.

"The majority approves of our policies," said RPCR leader Jacques Lafleur after the official results were declared.

The local Kanaks (Melanesians) who want independence, said the result was a triumph for late FLNKS leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou, murdered by tribesmen opposed to compromise. "I think tonight Jean-Marie Tjibaou would have been very happy," said successor Francois Burck.

French officials, who stepped up security in the archipelago of nickel-rich islands 20,000 kilometres from Paris after threats of disruption by the radical Kanak group Fulk, expressed relief as the polling booths closed without incident.

"It's a victory for democracy," said French High Commissioner Bernard Grasset, who will surrender his powers when the regional assemblies take over.

Tjibaou and right-hand man Yewone Yewone were shot dead in May by fellow Melanesians outraged at an agreement signed with Lafleur and French Prime Minister Michel Rocard a year ago.

The accord sought to end years of inter-communal violence which climaxed in a siege on the island of Ouvea last year in which 19 Kanaks and three gendarmes were killed.

The agreement provided for a year of direct Paris rule followed by the creation of three assemblies with wide powers. But a decision to put off an independence referendum until 1998 infuriated Kanak hardliners.

Two die, 10,000 faint at Khomeini graveside

NICOSIA (AP) — Two Iranians died and more than 10,000 fainted in the throngs that flocked to the grave of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini Sunday to mark the week since his death with another emotional outpouring.

Some of Iran's most powerful leaders were among the more than one million mourners that overflowed from Behesht-e Zahra cemetery, including Khomeini's successor, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"Soon this site will become a shrine to attract the Muslims of the world," said Rafsanjani, breaking down in tears in an emotional speech. "This is a center which radiates heavenly light."

Iranian press reports, monitored in Nicosia, said one man died of a heart attack and another after he fell off one of the many cargo containers placed on the grounds for TV cameras. It said the deaths had occurred since

Saturday night, when crowds started converging on the site.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the mourners were so dense at the height of the mid-afternoon ceremony that one person fainted every second on average in temperatures around 36 Celsius (96 Fahrenheit).

It said the crowd was three kilometres across, with unprecedented traffic jams on the expressway leading to the cemetery. The sick were passed overhand to one of 23 mobile medical units stationed around the site with more than 1,000 doctors and medical workers on duty, IRNA reported.

More serious injuries were rushed to nearby hospitals with one of 250 ambulances, IRNA reported. Eleven stations were set up to handle lost children and personal effects.

Tehran Television showed mourners pouring onto the site 15 kilometres south of Tehran, where Khomeini was buried Tuesday amid a frenzied outpouring of grief by around two million mourners.

The 86-year-old leader of Iran's 1979 revolution died of a heart attack June 3, after undergoing surgery May 23 to stop internal bleeding.

Buses and vans, decorated in black cloth, transported mourners from Tehran and the theological centre of Qom, 130 kilometres away. A group of 2,500 mourners led by Iranian and foreign theologians set out from Qom on foot Friday night to attend the ceremony, IRNA said.

All city buses were commandeered for the ceremony, but there were not enough to carry everyone who wanted to go to the cemetery, the agency said.

The cargo containers placed over Khomeini's grave to keep the crowds from carrying off the dirt were transformed overnight into an Islamic shrine complete with a gold dome.

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Younger ministers take charge of economy in Soviet shake-up

MOSCOW (R) — A wide-ranging ministerial shake-up announced by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov has produced a leaner, younger and better qualified team to try to put right the country's faltering economy.

Ryzhkov, in an address Saturday to the Supreme Soviet, the upper chamber of the Soviet parliament, announced huge cuts in government bureaucracy.

Twenty of 52 ministries in the industrial, transport and farming sectors are to be abolished outright. Only 10 of 100 senior government officials appointed in 1984 remain in office.

He also unveiled a new line-up of his closest assistants — 13 first deputy and deputy prime ministers — to be submitted for parliamentary approval later this month. Most are younger and more qualified than their predecessors.

Among those promoted was Leonid Abalkin, one of the country's leading economic reformists, while Finance Minister Boris Gostev was dropped.

Speakers during the parliament's inaugural session denounced the government's economic policies, warning that quick

action was needed to curb the huge budget deficit and do away with growing shortages of staple consumer goods.

Economist Nikolai Shmelyov suggested last week that Ryzhkov was unaware of the acuteness of the problem. He also said official estimates of the budget deficit — 100 billion roubles (\$156 billion) — was 20 per cent below the real figure.

Ryzhkov acknowledged the criticisms were "correct and justified" and said his government would respond to them. The new ministries, he said, would operate on a new basis of minimum interference in production methods.

"We are talking about a completely new type of ministry, qualitatively different from what existed before," he said.

"They will be stripped of many production functions with one exception — to work actively to promote a climate allowing for the full potential of basic production units."

Among the changes were consolidation of 11 machine building industries into four and the merging of seven construction bodies into two. Three ministries in

energy would disappear along with two in the defence sector.

Although most of the ministerial team was not made public, Ryzhkov said the average age of ministers had dropped to 55. Six were outstanding academics, 23 had a well-grounded scientific background and 37 were managers with a proven record.

Abalkin was named deputy prime minister by Ryzhkov, has been a key adviser to President Mikhail Gorbachev, particularly on doing away with the country's budget deficit.

Head of the Moscow Institute for the Economy, he earned national attention last summer for his critical assessment of Gorbachev's reforms at a communist party conference.

First deputy prime ministers named by Ryzhkov included Lev Voronin, put in charge of "general questions," and agriculture expert Vladimir Kalashnikov, responsible for the key area of food supplies.

The third was Yuri Maslyukov, a member of the Communist Party's ruling politburo, who retained his position as first deputy prime minister despite recent attacks on him for setbacks.

Ghali, Israeli leaders review peace prospects

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An Egyptian minister visited Israel Sunday for the first time since the Palestinian uprising erupted 18 months ago and assured the Zionist state of Cairo's continued friendship.

"We agreed on some things, but we are still good friends. We must continue to work together," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali told reporters after meeting Vice-Premier Shimon Peres.

He embraced Peres warmly before beginning talks on Arab and Israeli proposals for the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Peres said both sides felt a comprehensive peace plan was needed for the Middle East. "Time is running out, and the better we reach an agreement, the better we shall serve our people," Peres said.

Israeli commentators said Ghali's 48-hour visit underlined Egypt's commitment to peace with Israel, just two weeks after Cairo was readmitted to the Arab League following a 10-year suspension over its 1979 treaty with the Zionist state.

Egyptian diplomats said Ghali would try to convince Israeli leaders that last month's Casablanca Arab summit adopted moderate resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict that offered a basis for a comprehensive peace.

"Egypt has shown herself as

being part of the Arab World on one hand but leaving a strategy for peace on the other," Peres said of his summit performance.

"I believe on that point of view it was clearly a strong and winning Egyptian position which we appreciate very much."

Peres added: "While maybe in Casablanca there was not an overwhelming opening, I don't think the doors were closed and that all people of good will can continue and work together for an opening position."

In a surprise move, Ghali held a brief, closed-door meeting with Faisal Hussein, a leading activist from Arab Jerusalem.

Hussein said after the session at King David Hotel that "the Egyptian position, I believe, supports the Palestinian position."

He declined further comment. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has called for elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to select Palestinians to negotiate with Israel on limited autonomy for the territories.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and PLO leaders from the occupied territories, including Hussein, have rejected the idea, saying it ignores Palestinian aspirations for an independent state.

Egypt has been cool to the proposal.

Ghali was to meet a group of Palestinian leaders Monday before sitting down for talks with Shamir. He is carrying a message for Shamir from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

The last Egyptian cabinet minister to visit was Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid in July 1987.

Ghali was greeted on his arrival at Ben Gurion airport by Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, who said he hoped to muster Egyptian support for the election proposal.

Ghali told reporters at the airport that "I will be seeing many people here in our efforts to bring about a lasting and comprehensive peace in the region, a peace we all need."

Egyptian Ambassador Moham mad Bassiouny told the Jerusalem Post that Israel would have to provide more details of the proposed Palestinian elections to attract an Arab partner.

In a swipe at a recent speech by Shamir, Bassiouny said: "If you have declarations such as 'not on inch'... you will surely not find a partner for your initiative."

Shamir and his rivals in the right-wing Likud party agreed Sunday they would debate the election plan July 2.

Shamir's two main party rivals Deputy Premier David Levy and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon oppose the initiative, backed by the United States, and war Likud's 2,600-member centrist committee to reject it.

Shamir has said he will resign the vote goes against him.

Philippines observes independence day

By Juan V. Saez
Philippine ambassador to Jordan



THE PHILIPPINES observes the 91st anniversary of its independence today (Monday, June 12) buoyed up by an impressive economic and political performance.

The Philippines declared its independence from Spain on June 12, 1898, after almost 400 years of Spanish colonialism, thus becoming the first republic in Asia. However, this republic was short-lived. The Philippines became a colony of the United States in the same year as an aftermath of the Spanish-American war. During the Second World War Japan occupied the Philippines for about four years. It was granted independence by the United States on July 4, 1946. But as far as the Philippines is concerned it reckons its independence from June 12, 1898.

This is the fourth time that the Philippines is observing its independence day anniversary since the bloodless people-power revolution of February 1986 toppled the Marcos dictatorship and brought into power President Corason C. Aquino.

Since 1986, the Philippines has restored all its democratic institutions. It has adopted a new constitution and elected a new congress and local government officials down to the village level. It now has a free press.

Philippine economic performance during the last few years has been better than other heavily indebted countries. Its GNP growth rate of 6.7 per cent last year was the highest amongst all of them. Its inflation rate of 8.8 per cent in the same year was considerably lower.

Its ratio of outstanding debt to GNP compared favourably with those of many other indebted countries, while its interest service, computed as the ratio of interest payments to export of goods, at 18.7 per cent, was significantly lower.

Recently the Philippines submitted a letter of intent with the International Monetary Fund for \$900 million extended facility fund and \$400 mil-

lion compensatory and contingency financial fund. The letter was accompanied by the usual memorandum on economic policy designed to sustain its growth.

And early next month, a fledgling session will be held in Tokyo for the Philippine Aid Programme, also known as the multilateral aid initiative designed to hasten Philippine economic recovery.

While the Philippines takes rightful pride in its economic and political achievements since February 1986, the road ahead is still full of difficulties. Foremost amongst these are the Communist insurgency and a Muslim separatist movement.

As Aquino said in her independence day message, "even as we have won our freedom and weathered crisis after crisis, our times do not offer easy solutions nor comfort... For every freedom there is a corresponding responsibility. We have survived before, we shall now strive to carve a new national destiny for our people."

In this springtime of Philippine democracy, we thank our Jordanian friends for their good wishes. Relations between the Philippines and Jordan are very cordial and friendly based on mutual respect and goodwill. We particularly support the efforts of His Majesty King Hussein for the convening of an international peace conference under the United Nations auspices, with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli peace campaigners indicted

RAMLA (R) — Israel charged eight peace activists Sunday with breaking a ban on contacts with what it says are "terrorist" groups by meeting senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials in Hungary two years ago. The eight were among 22 Israeli leftists who met leading officials of the PLO in Budapest including Mahmoud Abbas, a PLO executive member. Their trial in Ramla magistrates court begins July 10.

Egyptian police seal off U.S. embassy

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian explosive experts took away a suspicious object found in the grounds of the U.S. embassy in Cairo Sunday, an embassy spokeswoman said. "Something has been found inside the perimeter wall," said an embassy spokeswoman. "But it wasn't a bomb and the Egyptians took whatever it was away with them." An eyewitness told Reuters that police shut roads around the embassy complex in the fashionable Garden City suburb for about 90 minutes, and that bomb disposal experts removed what appeared to be two oblong white batteries.

Ethiopia seeks better GCC ties

NICOSIA (R) — Ethiopia is trying to improve links with Arab Gulf states, several of which back rebels fighting for independence in the Red Sea province of Eritrea. The United Arab Emirates news agency WAM Sunday quoted Ethiopian Vice-President Yusuf Ahmad as saying in an interview with the Dubai-based Al Bayan newspaper that Addis Ababa was trying to clear hurdles to better relations. "We and the Arabs are brothers since the dawn of history... and if there was a misunderstanding with some Arab countries over the Eritrean problem, we are trying to remove it now," he said.

6 Pakistanis face death by stoning

KHAIRPUR, Pakistan (AP) — Six people were sentenced to death by stoning Saturday after a court found a couple guilty of adultery and four of their friends guilty of aiding them in the crime. Judge Mirza Saeed Beg invoked the "Haddud Ordinance" enacted in 1979 by former President Mohammad Zia ul Haq. It was the first such ruling since Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto came to power in December. Bhutto has pledged to press for repeal of the Islamic law. Beg's court convicted Gulam Qadir Sher and Noor Khatoun of marrying illegally because Khatoun failed to secure a proper divorce from her previous husband, Shaikh Anwar Ali Sher. The court found four of Qadir Sher's friends guilty as accomplices. They helped arrange his marriage with Khatoun. No date was set for the executions.

Iraq denies political reasons behind Kurdish resettlement

ARBIL, Iraq (AP) — A senior Iraqi official has strongly denied claims by Kurdish opposition groups that the government is forcibly resettling Kurds outside their traditional mountain homeland in an effort to quell their separatist movement.

Ahmad Abdul Qader Al Naqshabandi, a Kurdish official heading the legislative council of the autonomous Kurdish region in northern Iraq told the Associated Press in an interview that "not a single Kurd" would be deported from the area.

Naqshabandi, based in the autonomous region's capital of Arbil, called the rebel claims "pure fabrications... the product of a fertile imagination."

He said Kurdish villagers were being relocated as part of a government project to develop the area after "long years of backwardness."

"It's non-political and non-partisan — only a communal programme aiming at uplifting economic and social standards for the villagers," Al Naqshabandi said.

Iraqi officials say the programme will group villagers in large-scale housing developments along the border with Iran and Turkey, but far from a security zone the government is carving out in an effort to halt cross-border attacks by rebels.

"This is a border area and we are still at war with Iran... so long as no peace treaty is signed, should we let our border be open to every infiltrator?" said Mohammad Amin Ahmad, secretary general for culture and youth in the autonomous region.

Kurdish rebel officials claimed Saturday that Iraqi troops have razed two towns and five villages in the mountainous northeast forcing 19,000 people to evacuate the area.

The rebels claim that around 300,000 Kurds are being moved to other areas as part of a campaign to end the separatist movement and change the region's democratic character.

Kurdish rebels in Iraq, Turkey and Iran have been battling for decades for an independent Kurdistan in the rugged mountains where the three countries' borders meet.

"This is a huge rugged area where rebels felt free to move and act for years. You cannot control them unless you put them under your constant supervision," said a Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Diplomats say Iraq has made

major concessions to its Kurdish population in the past, including granting unprecedented autonomy in the Kurdish region. Kurdish leaders, however, accuse Baghdad of reneging on its promises.

The rebels sided with Iran in the Gulf war and helped pin down thousands of Iraqi troops in the north, who were badly needed in the main battlefronts of the south.

Ahmad blamed the separatists for the backwardness of Iraq's Kurdish region, saying "the instability they created in the area since 1961 was the main hindrance for progress of our people."

He said the government has allocated large sums for reconstruction and the development since the ceasefire.

The officials said that Iraq's 3.5 million Kurds, who make up one-quarter of the population, are much better off than Kurds in Iran or Turkey, where the rights of the ethnic minority are not recognised.

They pointed out that the Kurdish language is taught at schools in the three Kurdish provinces and that there is a university and a Kurdish legislature. The Kurds also contribute four ministers to the government and one Iraqi vice president is a Kurd.

"When I was in Iran, Kurds were censuring me for fighting with the Iranians against the Iraqis," said Riyadh Khader Wali, 38, a former rebel leader who returned after a government amnesty last year.

Wali, who formerly headed the information department of the rebel Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, said he left the movement when its leaders decided to stay in Iran.

"Autonomy here might be insufficient, but at least there are some rights which could be further improved," said Wali, who studied journalism at Baghdad University. Like other political returnees he works for the government in Arbil.

There are around 20 million Kurds in Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Syria and the southwestern Soviet Union.

Reuter adds: Iran's new supreme leader Ali Khamenei has pledged to support Iraqi Kurds fighting the Baghdad government, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported Saturday.

Khamenei made the remarks to a delegation of Iraqi Kurds in Tehran for the funeral of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who died last Saturday, IRNA added.

"President Khamenei stressed support of the Islamic republic of Iran for the Iraqi Muslim Kurds," the agency said.

S. Arabia buys French arms

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia has signed a deal to buy the French Mistral air defence system, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said Saturday.

It quoted Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz as saying that he had also signed a general accord with French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement on buying French-made military equipment.

"Payment for this will be made in the normal way as well as with industrialised Saudi products such as petrochemicals and agricultural products," he was quoted as telling Saudi journalists in Paris.

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, gave no figures for the deals.

Earlier this week Prince Sultan had played down reports that deals worth 18 billion francs (\$2.7 billion) would be signed during his four-day visit, part of a European tour.

The Saudi Agency quoted him as saying that under one accord France had agreed to supply Saudi Arabia "with all its require-

ments of French military industries."

Prince Sultan said the Mistral deal had been under study for three years. A group of Saudi officers had been working with their French colleagues during the development of the surface-to-air missile system and had been closely briefed on its usage and potential.

Although Saudi Arabia has used crude oil exports in part-payment for arms purchases in the past, the deal with France marks the first time petrochemical and agricultural products have featured in barter deals.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has developed its petrochemical and agricultural sectors in recent years in an attempt to break away from dependence on oil revenues.

But it has found difficulties in reaching Western European markets because of European Community tariffs.

France and Britain have become major arms suppliers to

Saudi Arabia in recent years, following efforts by the pro-Israeli lobby in the U.S. Congress to block sales of sophisticated American weaponry to the kingdom.

France in the early 1980s won a \$4-billion deal to supply Saudi Arabia with the Crotale surface-to-air missile defence system, known to the Saudis as the Shaheen defence system.

In 1986, France concluded a "naval support agreement" with Saudi Arabia, worth more than \$3 billion. It involved the supply of four frigates, 24 Dauphin helicopters and two Atlantique-11 marine patrol aircraft for the Saudi armed forces.

France also has been mentioned as a likely contender for Saudi Arabia's first ever purchase of submarines.

But it now appears the kingdom has postponed that purchase for the moment in favour of buying more surface vessels, according to informed sources speaking on condition of anonymity.

Maghreb states set up common parliament

ALGIERS (R) — Five Maghreb states formed a joint parliament Saturday as part of plans for a common market stretching from the Atlantic to the Eastern Mediterranean.

The five — Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia — founded the Arab Maghreb Union in February to promote political and economic integration and meet the challenge of the single market due to be set up by the European Community in 1992.

The union's charter called for the establishment of a 50-member consultative assembly composed of 10 parliamentarians from each state.

Rebels claim ambush near Kabul

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Rebels claimed Sunday they killed an Afghan army colonel and nine soldiers in an ambush on the key road linking Kabul, the capital, with Afghanistan's besieged eastern city of Jalalabad.

The guerrillas also denied a report by the Communist government that rebel commanders have contacted Kabul officials to arrange a truce.

Mujahedeen insurgents ambushed three government convoys last Wednesday and Thursday along a 70-kilometre stretch of contested road west of Jalalabad, according to the rebel Afghan News Agency (ANA).

It quoted a radio report saying a colonel and nine soldiers were killed, 27 were wounded and one officer deserted to the Mujahedeen.

Ten vehicles and two heavy guns were destroyed, the report said.

Qaribur Rehman Saeed, head of the news agency, said he had

not received the colonel's identification. There was no independent confirmation.

Mujahedeen, supplied mainly by Pakistan and the United States, have besieged Jalalabad since March 6, three weeks after Soviet troops ended nearly a decade of involvement in the civil war.

The guerrillas have rendered the communist held airport unsafe for fixed wing aircraft but entrenched government forces have resupplied by helicopter.

A few armoured convoys have fought their way through from the west with losses of men and material.

ANA has reported 51 communist soldiers killed and 54 wounded in fighting around Afghanistan since Wednesday.

It said guerrillas rocketed the military airport at the southeast city of Kandahar Wednesday and Thursday, killing six soldiers, wounding seven and destroying a Soviet-built Antonov-12 trans-

port plane on the ground.

Two of the most powerful Mujahedeen parties, the Jamiat-i-Islami of Burhanuddin Rabbani and the Hezb-i-Islami of Gulbadin Hekmatyar, both based in Pakistan, denied claims by the Kabul government that several guerrilla commanders had approached the communists for a truce.

"The regime's claims that the Mujahedeen commanders have contacted them is based on fabrication and falsehood," they said in a joint statement.

They called it a ploy by Afghan President Najibullah to sow discord among rebel groups.

"The writing on the wall is clear — the puppet regime's days are numbered," the statement said.

Mujahedeen predicted the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) would fall quickly after the Soviet troops withdrawal.

Dubai police probe Iranian assassination

DUBAI (AP) — Police are investigating the murder of a dissident Iranian colonel shot dead in his hotel room, informed sources said.

They said retired Colonel Ata'ollah Bayahmadi, 52, was murdered in his room at Dubai's Excelsior Hotel last week while on a transit trip from Europe.

The sources said the victim's first name was Ata'ollah, and had no religious rank. An Iranian dissident earlier was quoted as mistakenly identifying the assassin as Ayatollah Bayahmadi, leading to the belief the man was an army officer turned clergyman.

A group of men barged into his room in the hotel and shot him several times with a Colt revolver

equipped with a silencer, said the sources, who spoke on condition they not be named.

The Excelsior is a moderately priced hotel in the downtown of this southern Gulf transportation hub.

Police are trying to determine whether the murder was politically motivated, since the men who fired the shots were said to be Iranians, said the sources.

The assassination was first reported by a Paris-based Iranian opposition figure identified as Dr. Manucher Ghanji to a Kuwaiti newspaper.

Ghanji told the Kuwaiti English-language paper Arab Times that Bayahmadi was head of the counter-espionage service in the Iranian army under the late Shah.

WANTED

An international group of companies dealing in computers and its related equipments seeks for its Gulf operation the following personnel:

- **JOB DESCRIPTION:** Regional sales promotion (based in Abu Dhabi)
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- **EXPERIENCE:** 5 to 7 years in IBM companies
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The benefits offered are an appropriate basic salary, yearly sales commission, housing accommodation, yearly ticket and 30 days vacation, medical and life insurance.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

fresh. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and calm sea.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 12 / 24
Aqaba 20 / 32
Deserts 16 / 28
Jordan Valley 19 / 32

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 24, Aqaba 32. Humidity readings: Amman 52 per cent, Aqaba 24 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Muhammad Al Hourani 898552
Dr. Amin Abdul Jabbar 614222
Dr. Sami Al Khouri 681373
Dr. Khaled Ma'adi 743500
Firas pharmacy 661912
Firdous pharmacy 718336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Naroukh pharmacy 623672
Al Solan pharmacy 636780
Ya'qub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Mahmud Khalil (—)

Al Shara'a pharmacy 985238
ZARQA:
Dr. Nash'at Ammari 982689
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 991228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 787111
Amman Municipality 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 630321
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdoli Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 751111
Radio Jordan 751111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Abdoli Maternity, J. Amn. 64341/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 64262
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdoli 666127/7
Al-Abdi, Abdoli 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreh 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marika 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602409/0
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govi. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986752
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)127275
Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:00 Damascus (RU)
10:00 Sana'a (RU)
10:15 Aqaba (RU)
10:20 Jeddah (RU)
10:30 Cairo (RU)
10:40 Kuwait (RU)
10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RU)
10:45 Laraca (RU)
11:45 Cairo (RU)
11:50 New York, Vienna (RU)
11:55 Bucharest, Istanbul (RU)
12:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RU)
12:00 Bangkok (RU)
12:05 Rome (RU)
12:15 Baghdad (RU)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:30 Dubai (EK)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

08:00 Aqaba (RU)
11:40 Istanbul, Bucharest (RU)
11:45 Montreal, New York (RU)
12:15 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RU)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RU)
13:45 Cairo (RU)
20:40 Kuwait (RU)
21:15 Baghdad (RU)
21:20 Jeddah (RU)
21:30 Kuwait (RU)
21:30 Dhahran (RU)
21:30 Dubai, Muscat (RU)
22:00 Abu Dhabi (RU)
22:00 Bahrain, Doha (RU)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
10:30 Dubai (EK)
11:00 Kuwait (add.) (KU)
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)
14:00 Cairo (MS)
14:20 Bahrain, Sharjah (GF)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden) 300 / 600
Apricot 600 / 700
Banana 370 / 520
Banana (Mukammal) 320 / 270
Beans 500 / 400
Carrot 60 / 40
Cauliflower 140 / 100
Cherry (red) 240 / 180
Cherry (green) 800 / 600
Corn 350 / 300
Cucumber 140 / 100
Dates 180 / 120
Eggplant 500 / 400
Garlic 450 / 320
Grapes 700 / 600
Lemon 360 / 300
Lettuce (per ooz) 520 / 300
Marrow (large) 30 / 70
Marrow (small) 70 / 50
Okra 180 / 120
Orange 880 / 780
Onion (dry) 340 / 300
Pepper (hot) 30 / 70
Pepper (sweet) 400 / 340
Potato 420 / 360
Tomatoes 280 / 220
Watermelon 130 / 90
Watermelon 120 / 30

THE AMMAN BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

SUMMER SCHOOL 1989

COURSES: LANGUAGES (ARABIC, ENGLISH)
ACTIVITIES (COMPUTER STUDIES, ART, DRAMA, DANCE)
SPORTS (TENNIS, SWIMMING, GENERAL FITNESS, SQUASH)

For further information, please call 845572 or 847191.

JUNE 24, 1989 - JULY 13, 1989
9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 751111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kuran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
16:00 News summary in Arabic
16:05 World News
16:20 World around us
16:30 Local programme
16:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Monday Forum
22:20 Variety Show
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Variety show (cont'd.)

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Le Monde: Esa'a Vous
18:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:30 Kait and Altit
21:10 O'Hara
22:00 News in English
22:20 The Family Tree

PRAYER TIMES

03:50 Fajr
05:25 (Sunrise) Duha
12:35 Dhulh
16:16 Asr
19:46 Maghreb

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624591
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622346
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625453
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Amman International Church Tel. 885326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 775261
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be rather cold and partly cloudy with scattered thundery showers in the northern and central regions and winds will be westerly moderate to

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KING SENDS CABLES: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to Filipino President Corason Aquino congratulating her on the Philippine Independence Day and wishing her continued good health and happiness and the people further progress and prosperity. Also Tuesday, the King sent a similar cable to Portuguese President Mario Soares congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of Jordan's people and government on Portugal's National Day. The King wished Soares continued good health and happiness and the Portuguese people further progress and prosperity. (Petra).

EXHIBITIONS AT YARMOUK: Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan Sunday inaugurated a military drawings exhibition, held in cooperation with the Armed Forces Morale Guidance Department, to mark Jordan's Army Day and the Great Arab Revolt Day. The three-day event includes 30 pictures of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, the late King Talal Ibn Abdullah and His Majesty King Hussein. Hamdan also opened another photo exhibition on Germany, organised by the Fine Arts Department in cooperation with Goethe Institute (Petra).

CONFERENCE ON CIVIL DEFENCE: Jordan will take part in the second Arab Conference on Civil Defence which is due to open in Casablanca, Morocco, Monday. Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director General Khaled Tarawneh left for Morocco Sunday at the head of an official delegation to take part in the three-day conference and will submit a working paper on CDD work in Jordan and emergency services and rescue operations. In a pre-departure statement Tarawneh noted that the delegates will discuss ways of handling the consequences of natural disasters, providing safety for civilians from the danger of pollution and dangerous chemicals and providing emergency aid in all forms in urban and rural areas (Petra).

Jordanian-Indian trade seminar opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian and Indian businessmen will open a two-day face to face talks Monday designed to promote trade and economic cooperation between their countries, explore areas for joint ventures and discuss import/export operations.

Their meeting, organised by the Amman Chamber of Industry, will be addressed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who will outline Jordan's views for promoting bilateral cooperation in trade and the exchange of industrial and technological expertise, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that the 350 participants will be addressed also by the Amman Chamber of Industry Khaldoun Abu Hassan, Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz, Indian Ambassador Gurcharan Singh, Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh and Central Bank Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi, all of whom tackling areas that can be explored in the drive to promote Indian-Jordanian trade and economic cooperation.

According to Abu Hassan, the gathering will be the first Indian-Jordanian Investment Seminar that was paved for in talks by a Jordanian economic delegation which visited New Delhi in April 1988.

Statistics seminar opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — Delegates from Jordan and eight other Arab countries Sunday opened a three-week training seminar on organising and managing censuses and improving the skill and performance of personnel conducting national censuses in West Asian countries.

The seminar, organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in cooperation with the Department of Statistics, will discuss aspects of work in the field of conducting census and means of conducting this task at the minimum possible cost so as to reduce financial burdens on regional governments.

Department of Statistics Director General Abdul Hadi Alawin addressed the opening session, referring to the importance of manpower and human activities as one of the essential elements in statistical information that should be gathered by the national departments of statistics.

"Statistics that are comprehensive and covering all aspects of

human activities are of significant importance for the planners and economists in their drive to pursue the implementation of development programmes," Alawin said.

Dr. Labib Abdul Nour from ESCWA said that the seminar was organised in response to a request by heads of national departments of statistics in the West Asia region to update the skill and performance of personnel employed in statistics-related work.

The seminar, which is financed by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, entails lectures on census work, planning programmes for census, the process of counting and registering residents and homes as well as analysing and assessing the results of the census and the costs involved.

Delegates attending the seminar came from Jordan, Iraq, South Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and Syria.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three North African artists at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Abu Othman at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Tents and Stones" by Samia Al Zaru at Alia Art Gallery (Flying Carpet).
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Study in Line and Colour" by Dodi Tabas at the Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ A photography exhibition on Jordan by Francis Chaveron at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition on Bertolt Brecht's life and famous theatre performances at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Spotlight Germany" displaying works by eleven German photographers at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition of contemporary Japanese posters at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of photographs on Arabic and oriental architecture by Radolph Husemadi at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of children's paintings, educational facilities, ceramics and silkwork at Al Hareth Model Kindergarten.
- ★ An exhibition of military drawings and photographs at the Yarmouk University.

FILM

- ★ A German video entitled "Mutter Courage and ihre Kinder" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.



Unit celebrates Prince Hashem's birthday

His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Sunday called at Prince Hashem Battalion and took part in the battalion's celebrations of His Royal Highness Prince Hashem's birthday. Upon arrival, the King was received by the battalion commander, who

briefed him on the duties and activities of the battalion. The King was accompanied by Prince Hashem and Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb. The battalion commander presented Prince Hashem with a token gift on his birthday (Petra photo).

Princess Basma visits Irbid centres

IRBID (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma toured a number of charitable and voluntary societies in Irbid Governorate Sunday and inspected their operations.

The princess who is the chairperson of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund's board of trustees visited Al Hussein orphanage, and Dar Al Hanan Institute for the care of children

in Irbid. Both centres are run by the Ministry of Social Development.

Later Sunday the Princess opened a three-day exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex, displaying a variety of handicrafts and embroideries by the charitable organisations in the Irbid region. She also attended a ceremony for the graduation of trainees who completed dress-

making courses at the Young Women's Christian Association Centre.

Irbid Governorate has 100 charitable organisations, many of which provide care for children, according to speakers at the graduation ceremony.

The Princess distributed diplomas and awards to the 100 graduates.

New team to supervise RJ operations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Jordanian Executive Director and Chairman of the Board Ali Ghandour Sunday has formed a special committee to supervise the Royal Jordanian (RJ) operations and to develop long-term policies and future plans.

The supervisory committee, chaired by Ghandour, groups two elected members from the board, in addition to the Deputy Executive Director.

According to the new organisational and administrative structure, approved by Ghandour, the following departments will be linked with the Executive Director and Chairman of the Board: Central Planning and research, public relations, international re-

lations, legal affairs, supply and investments, internal audit and general safety, administrative monitoring and the Board's secretary general.

The new amendment to the RJ structure also provided for the appointment of Hussam Abu Ghazaleh as deputy executive director and assigned him the duties of short-term planning, discharging daily administrative matters, in addition to other duties.

Abu Ghazaleh will be assisted by a standing executive committee, grouping the departments of finance and accounting, air operations, engineering and maintenance, ticketing and marketing, shipping, sales and marketing,

airport services, supply, passenger services, administrative and personnel services, which will all be linked with his office.

In a statement to Jordan News Agency, Petra, Ghandour said that such organisation "has been warranted by the competitive nature of work, which requires improved performance and high productivity through taking the right decisions."

"Therefore, the new organisation is designed to ensure high productivity as well as unique and efficient service," Ghandour said. "One of the most prominent aspects of the new amendments to the organisational structure is the involvement of staff in the decision making process."

Photo exhibition opens at French Cultural Centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 12-day photograph exhibition by French artist Francis Chaveron opened Sunday at the French Cultural Centre in Amman. The exhibition, entitled "Jordan by a French photographer" displays Kingdom through a personal approach by the artist featuring the best views taken by the students of the photograph seminar which was managed by the artist himself at the French Cultural Centre last February.

Chaveron spent 14 days in Petra, Jerash, Wadi Rum and Amman, as well as Jerusalem, observing the country, and its inhabitants and taking photographs of different aspects of life and scenery.

On display are more than 40 of his photographs depicting street scenes, desert landscapes and urban views.

The French Cultural Centre had organised the February trip for Francis Chaveron who is a professional photographer, working for the Parisian agency RAPHO.

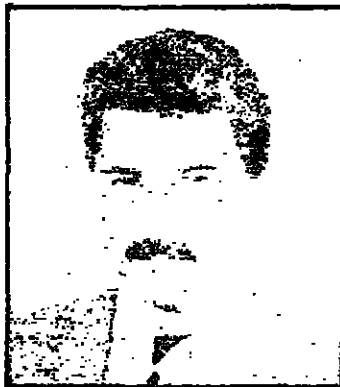
Hotel appoints new food and beverage chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — Warwick James recently joined Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental and took over the Food and Beverage Department.

James, who is from U.K., has a wide experience in the food and beverage industry, he was an executive chef in London for many years, where he catered for royalty and VIPs from around the world.

James has contributed in opening various well-renowned theme restaurants in London, in 1982 he was appointed food and beverage manager of the Dubai Metropolitan Hotel.

Before joining the Jordan Inter-Continental James made a tour of the Far East and USA looking for new and exciting ideas which he will be introducing in Amman, which will enforce the quality of food and service presented in the outlets, and keeping up the high standards of the hotel.



Warwick James

EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN JORDAN

presents
The Contemporary Japanese Poster Exhibition
and a
"Japanese Film Show"

at the Royal Cultural Centre
as follows:
Poster Exhibition: June 12 through June 19, 1989

at the Exhibition Hall
Film Show: (1) 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 12
"Big Joys, Small Sorrows"
(2) 7:00 p.m., Tuesday June 13
"Song of the Spring Pony"
at the Main Theatre

(Films are in Japanese and subtitled in Arabic)

★ ADMISSION FREE ★

Jordan seeks pact on transport and transit operations with Syria

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan informed Syria Sunday that it is interested in concluding a bilateral agreement that would organise transport and transit operations of goods and passengers via land routes between them.

Jordan's views were relayed to the Syrian side in the joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee on Transport, by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmar Khammash at a meeting in Amman.

The minister said that Jordan would like to see further coordination between the two countries in the transportation of goods and passengers, and exemptions of all customs duty on goods and services exchanged between them.

He said that the planned agreement would provide further facilities for the transit trade as well.

The meeting was attended by the Ministry of Transport's Secretary General Mohammad Simadi.

Last February, the joint Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company's general assembly held a meeting in Damascus and was told that its fleet of trucks transported 1.5 million tonnes of goods between Jordan and Syria and the rest of the Arab World

since 1986 when the company was established.

The general assembly endorsed a 1989 budget and discussed matters related to the modernisation of the company's fleet of trucks.

Meanwhile the Syrian Jordanian Industry Company's general assembly is to open a meeting in Amman Monday under the chairmanship of the ministers of industry in both countries.

The assembly will review the 1988 closing accounts, the general budget and operations, according to an official announcement here Sunday.

The announcement said that the company's projects for 1988 and progress on joint venture will also be discussed at the meeting.

Residents of occupied lands must return with registered dependents

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Interior Sunday issued an appeal to residents of the occupied territories to refrain from making visits to their occupied homeland without taking along with them all their children and other dependents registered in the travel permits issued by the Israeli authorities.

The ministry said that the Israeli authorities have been returning from the bridges residents

who do not abide by these conditions, thus creating difficulties for the Arab inhabitants and depriving them of the right to return.

The statement said that the Ministry of Interior had issued specific regulations concerning this question back in 1983 when it urged residents of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip to bring along their dependents, especially under-age children whenever they cross into the

occupied lands for visits.

The statement was issued in view of the expected upsurge in visits by Palestinian people to their homeland which are normally done during the summer holidays.

"Even when making short trips to the occupied areas for emergency, Palestinians ought to bring along their children so as to avoid entry denial, especially their permits are due to expire

Majali and artists discuss ways to improve cultural work

AMMAN (Petra) — Members of the Jordanian Artists Association (JAA) Sunday discussed matters related to the art movement in Jordan and means of improving artistic and cultural work at a meeting with Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali.

The association members raised the question of updating

laws governing the work of artists and a number of other topics of concern to the artists' work.

The minister, presented some of his ideas for promoting artistic work, and reviewed with the association members means of developing theatre in Jordan and Jordanian artists' participation in pan-Arab theatre festivals.

The Ministry of Culture on

Saturday evening held a ceremony in honour of Dr. Mohamad Hammouri, the former minister of culture.

Minister of Culture Nasouh Majali delivered an address commending his predecessor's endeavours in cultural fields and own contributions to the implementation of a series of cultural events during his mandate.

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AMMAN-PARIS

TUESDAY 01 h 15
05 h 25
THURSDAY 09 h 40
15 h 45
SUNDAY 10 h 00
16 h 05

PARIS-AMMAN

MONDAY 12 h 30
18 h 25
WEDNESDAY 14 h 40
22 h 20
SATURDAY 15 h 05
22 h 45

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1977

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Sudanese take the first step

FINALLY, after protracted squabbles and bickerings which fuelled political uncertainty and exacerbated the plight of famine- and drought-hit Sudanese, the government of Sudan and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), have taken the first firm step towards peace by launching direct negotiations. While it may be too early to judge the course of the talks in Addis Ababa, the very fact that the two sides faced each other across the table indicates goodwill and desire for a negotiated settlement of the five-year-old conflict. The prophets of doom who could find no ray of hope for an early breakthrough in the process appear to have been confounded by Saturday's well-timed announcement that Egypt was willing to arbitrate its defence pact with Sudan if such a move would help Khartoum restore peace in south Sudan and that a similar accord with Libya had been nullified and superseded by other agreements. Coupled with the freezing of Islamic laws and punishments (hudud) and the month-old ceasefire which is holding in the south, the abrogation of the defence accords comes in fulfilment of three of the four major preconditions laid down by the rebels before opening peace talks. The fourth condition — the lifting of the state of emergency declared in 1985 — has not been met, but it seems to be accepted by the SPLA that it is a difficult move simply because of the violent opposition raised by the militant National Islamic Front (NIF) against any talks with the rebels.

A comforting feature of the Sudanese civil conflict is that the rebels are not demanding the ouster of the government or a radical change in the country's pan-Arab course. By agreeing to meet the government delegation, the SPLA has reaffirmed its respect for the democratically-elected government in Khartoum and that in itself is a heavy plus point which bodes well for the negotiations.

Let us forget, we cannot but commend the direct and indirect role played by the United Nations, particularly UNICEF, in arranging the Addis Ababa negotiations. It is another notch of success for UNICEF that its determined drive based on its vision that political climate is the key to meaningful and realistic relief efforts is showing signs of bearing fruit in Sudan.

Overall, there is hope in the air of a beginning of the end of the Sudanese conflict. The stage is set, the players are in place and the curtains are raised. The lines, of course, are well-known. There is little doubt that the government of Sadeq Al Mahdi is anxious to end the strife once and for all and realises that the religious fervour entertained by some circles in Sudan, including the NIF, could only prolong the conflict.

On the other side, it appears, judging from recent statements by SPLA leader John Garang, that the rebel movement has learnt its lessons over the years and is as anxious as the government to reach an agreement, particularly that some of its supporters seem to be shifting camps. To be sure, the rebels seem to be aiming for a deal with the government from a position of strength, derived from its recent advances on the ground, before it loses the advantage. Thus, all indications are that it is a matter of bargaining and extracting concessions which are not hard to offer. We hope the spirit of nationalism and unity as well as the sense of a shared common identity will dominate the Addis Ababa deliberations and signal an end to the suffering of the millions in Sudan.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i commented Sunday on America's decision to veto a U.N. Security Council Resolution condemning Israel's treatment of the Arab population in the Arab occupied territories. The paper said that this veto indirectly justified Israel's repressive measures, which include torture and the killing of children. The U.S. veto coincided with the start of a new round of the U.S.-PLO dialogue in Tunis. The American ambassador has tried to verbally coerce his PLO counterpart to accept Israel's election terms, according to the paper. The paper added that America's action at the U.N. and its behaviour in Tunis indicates that the U.S. has not opted for a credible role in any future Middle East peace settlement, contrary to its claims.

Mahmoud Rimawi, Sunday columnist for Al Ra'i, commented on the future of Iran under the leadership of its new head of state. The writer said that Tehran needs "true peace" not merely a ceasefire, if reconstruction of the country is to take place. Iran's new spiritual leader and the speaker of the parliament indicated that they believed peace with Iraq is the only way progress could be assured in Iran at this point in time. The writer noted that this statement was made after Iraqi President Saddam Hussein made a speech addressing the Iranian nation, urging its leaders to make peace with its Arab neighbours. The writer points out that an all-encompassing peace settlement would include an exchange of prisoners and other agreements on other outstanding issues.

Al Dustour daily commented on celebrations that had taken place on the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day. The celebrations the paper said indicated that the Great Arab Revolt and the Jordanian armed forces were a source of great pride to the Jordanian people. The paper noted that the revolt had brought hope to the Arab nation. The creation of the armed forces under the guidance and leadership of Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali and his descendants, marked the beginning of a new phase in the history of the Arab people. Jordan's celebration of the twin anniversaries, commemorated the accomplishment of the vanguards of the national movement towards freedom and unity.

Diplomacy must not obscure the realities of Israeli occupation

First things first

By Israel Shahak

IN THE last few months the question of Palestine has been subjected to a surfeit of diplomacy (some of it positive, but still no more than diplomacy) and plans for future contingencies. To all this mere verbal activity there seems to be no end. Meanwhile the Palestinians in the occupied territories are being subjected to greatly increased oppression. I will not discuss here the "special" massacres, like the one in Nahal-El, or even the increase in torture, especially of women, or the killings of children, but the "ordinary", daily system of humiliation and oppression which has been going on while the attention of the world (including most of the PLO bureaucracy) has been taken up with diplomacy.

It is time to return to reality, and reality is, first, what is happening to the Palestinian people, and second what the Israeli government is doing; the rest is subsidiary. There are two grave problems affecting hundreds of thousands of persons daily, which, in my opinion, prevent any positive advance in any direction as long as they are not tackled.

The theft of water

The first is the growing theft of water by the Israelis from the Palestinians in the occupied territories and the way it is divided. This is a perennial feature of the Israeli system of rule and one which reflects the determination of the Israeli establishment to keep its hold on the territories.

First the hard facts: next year the Israeli estimate for the volume of water originating from the West Bank is 807m cubic meters (mcm). Of this, 510 mcm will be diverted to Israeli use, 160 mcm will be granted to the Jewish settlers in the West Bank (whose number is estimated to reach 100,000, but, in my opinion, will be much less) and only 137 mcm will be allowed to the 1,200,000 Palestinians. The situation this year is only a little better than that estimated for next; it gets worse every year. Even if we accept the official figures the result is, percentage wise, that the Palestinians of the West Bank will get only 17 per cent of their own water, while Israel will get 83 per cent; of this the Jewish settlers, whose presence there is illegal, will get 20 per cent! What is more, while a Jewish settler in the West Bank will get officially 1,600 cubic metres of water per

person per year (in 1985 it was "only" 363 cubic metres of water per settler), a Palestinian there will get a mere 137 cubic metres, a ratio of 11.7:1. The average inhabitants of Tel Aviv use more water in their apartment than an average West Bank Palestinian family is allowed for all its needs, including irrigation. If this is not apartheid, then what is?

Enormous areas of the West Bank which could be irrigated are not allowed to be, because they belong to the Palestinians, and the Civil Administration refuses to allocate water for their irrigation. No doubt when such land is confiscated for the settlers the water will be found. Those 510 mcm of water (63 per cent of the whole) which are diverted from the neighbouring part of the West Bank to purely Israeli use are now an important part of the water consumption in a coastal area north of Tel Aviv. The fate of Israeli agricultural exports to Europe, an important part of the Israeli economy, depends on this stolen water.

In Gaza the situation is worse. Although there is no detailed official data it is well known that Palestinian agriculture in Gaza is being systematically dried up and destroyed, while that of the Jew-

ish settlers in the Gaza Strip (numbering a mere 2,500, but with an enormous water-consumption for their agriculture) and of the Israeli settlements surrounding the Strip, is flourishing. How is this done? By their efficient deep drilling the Israeli settlements cause the sea water to enter the underground reservoir tapped by Palestinian wells, while their own deeper wells are not affected.

The settlers inside the Strip, who by deep drilling tap deeper layers of water, also cause seepage from the sea into the more superficial levels. Since Palestinians are strictly prohibited from deep drilling or indeed from digging new wells on their own land, the result is that the sea seeps into their existing wells. By now, in many areas of the Gaza Strip even the water used by Palestinians for drinking, not to speak of that for agriculture, contains more salt than even the lowest medical standards allow. Israeli control of water supplies ensures that not only is there a general prohibition on Palestinians drilling new wells and enlarging old ones, or fitting new and better pumps, but that even sales of spare parts for old pumps are rigorously controlled.

Torture by humiliation

This brings us to the second problem: the total, indeed the totalitarian control, exercised by the Israeli authorities over all aspects of Palestinian life in the territories and the arbitrariness by which it is imposed. Let us begin with one of the least harsh examples: one of the minor forms of torture inflicted on every Palestinian is to order them to attend the offices of the military governor and be left to stand there from morning to evening, and be ordered to return the next day and the next, for as long as the authorities consider necessary.

Usually a group of older leaders of the community is subjected to this "treatment". They are assigned a young soldier, whom they have to address as "Sir" or as "Captain" and whose permission they need not only to get a drink of water but also to use the toilet. The aim, as in literally everything devised by the Israeli "Arabists", who really rule the territories, is to reduce all Palestinians without distinction, to the level of small children, completely dependent on a "higher" authority, and to put every Israeli on the higher level. This is absolutely legal.

It is also legal to close all clinics in a town (like Safit) because the administration does not like people there, to cut off electricity in Qabatiya for 13 months, to cut it off in half of Kfar Salim but leave it on in the other half. To cut off all telephones in a huge area is also legal. Recently it became known that from 1970 the entrance of all "unauthorised persons" to all refugee camps was illegal, according to an unpublished (and unknown) regulation which had the force of law and could be invoked at an appropriate moment against a press photographer. This too is legal, and the Israeli Supreme Court will surely uphold it if the military declare it to be "necessary for the security of Israel".

In short, the Israeli authorities can do in the territories anything and everything which they want with no exception. How any sort of free elections can be held under such conditions, except if the Israeli authorities think that they can determine the results in advance (as they thought in 1976), is a mystery. All diplomatic approaches, unless they lead to pressures which will hurt the Israeli establishment, distract attention from reality. — MEI.

European Parliament—another world power?

By Christina MacKenzie
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Prior to 1987, the European Parliament had little power and was often accused of being an expensive, unwieldy institution that contributed little to the European Economic Community (EEC).

But since a law known as the single act was passed July 1, 1987, modifying the community's 1957 founding Treaty of Rome, the parliament's powers have grown. The parliament is likely to become even more important as the community moves toward a unified market in 1992.

Under its original powers, which have been retained, the parliament can:

— Amend the community's budget, except on farm spending, or reject the budget altogether. It has already done this on several occasions.

— Dismiss all 17 members of the European Commission, the community's executive, as a body.

— Delay its opinion on legislation drafted by the commission. Normally, a law is proposed by the commission; then approved or amended by the parliament; reviewed by the European Council of Ministers, which represents the 12 member governments, and by a commission representative; returned to the parliament for more consideration; and, finally, enactment of the law by the Council of Ministers.

Since 1987, the parliament must also be consulted on any measure aimed at creating a unified European market that involves the environment, research and technology, occupational health and safety and certain measures to harmonise laws among nations. The parliament ultimately can move to amend such legislation if 260 of its 518 members vote to do so, although the amendments can later be stripped by the Council of Ministers.

The parliament now also has the right to veto or delay some EEC treaties with other countries, or applications for membership to the trade bloc. Last year, the parliament delayed for months renewing a treaty with Israel until Israel made good its promise to allow Palestinian agricultural produce into the EEC under its own laws.

Turkey's application for membership also will have to pass muster with the parliamentarians, who regularly adopt resolutions condemning Ankara's human rights record.

The European Parliament cannot initiate legislation on its own, but it can suggest to the commission areas where legislation is needed. For instance, recent draft legislation on harmonising television rules and keeping the majority of TV programmes made in Europe was an idea put forward by the parliament.

European Parliament members do not have to be members of their home parliaments, not do they even have to run for election in their country of citizenship. They are paid, by the European Community, the same salary they would receive if they belonged to their home parliaments.

The parliament, however, is seeking an even bigger say in EEC affairs. The most powerful body at present in the EEC is the Council of Ministers, made up of delegates from each member government. Advocates of more par-

liamentary power say the domination of community decision-making by a handful of people responsible only to their own governments is a disservice to the EEC's overall citizenry.

This "democratic gap" will be a hot issue in the parliament's next five-year term, says Gijs De Vries, a parliament member from the Netherlands who has been particularly active in the body's operations.

Other key issues, he says, will include details of how the single market will work, environmental, consumer and social issues and the EEC's relationship with the rest of the world.

The parliament has a crucial role in this last area, because trade cooperation agreements cannot take effect until a majority of the parliament approves them. The parliament also must sign off on applications from nations that want to join the community.

The parliament gets opportunities to influence legislation. When the European Commission — the EEC's executive body — drafts a piece of legislation, it goes to the parliament for amendments. It then goes to the Council of Ministers and a commission representative for their opinion before going back to the parliament for a second reading. At this stage the parliament can either accept the legislation as it stands or try to amend it a second time. The final decision is up to the Council of Ministers.

In the past, the council has ultimately adopted only 21 per cent of the parliament's second amendments.

But British conservative Christopher Jackson recently wrote that it is wrong to judge the parliament's influence only by how many of its amendments are approved. The 18 committees that draw up amendments also devise suggestions in the form of



(Cartoon: Hanel/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

written questions to the commission that the commission often incorporates into proposed legislation.

"Members take the view that parliamentary questions are among their most potent weapons

for influencing community policy," Jackson said. He said that in 1987, the parliament, which usually holds a week-long plenary meeting once a month, produced nearly 3,000 written questions and 1,000 oral questions.

The parliament also issues resolutions on current affairs, a large number of which reflect concern with human rights abuses and environmental issues.

The eight political parties often group in left-right alignments to

propose joint resolutions, and voting patterns show that group members do not always vote as expected.

This is because the political groups are largely a convenient vehicle for grouping parliament members who, in the final analysis, often have broadly similar views and might be equally happy in other groups. The main exception is members of the socialist group, which consists entirely of members of the Socialist International.

In May, the Spanish members of the European democratic group resigned from that grouping to join the European People's Party. And some Italian Communists feel their natural home in the parliament should be in the socialist grouping.

Parliamentary officials say that in the near future there could be profound changes in the groups, notably on the right, with the likely disappearance of the European Democratic Alliance and the movement of its members to other groupings.

Now that ecology has become fashionable, green parties throughout Europe are expected to do well at the expense of extreme right-wing parties.

In fact, campaigns for the parliament, which opened in most countries in early May, have a distinctly green tinge. Posters put up by the Belgian Socialist Party, whose logo is a closed fist holding a rose, say: "The SP didn't wait until it was fashionable to discover that nature existed."

Citizens of Britain, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain will vote for European Parliament members Thursday, June 15. Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal and West Germany follow June 18. Results are expected June 19.

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Cambodians arriving in Thailand via America.

Cambodian-American returns to tragic homeland

By Denis D. Gray
The Associated Press

PHNOM PENH — Ten years ago Yan Ke fled the Khmer Rouge killing fields, evaded an advancing Vietnamese army and was shut up in fetid refugee camps. He would never, he thought, see his tragic homeland or his splintered family again.

With a little nephew in Tow, the then 21-year-old refugee finally ended his odyssey in the United States — lonely, haunted by the past, concerned about survival in a strange land.

But Yan Ke did well in America. And recently, he joined an increasing number of his countrymen cautiously returning for visits from the United States, France, Australia and Canada. Rather than cross border minefields, this time he travelled on comfortable jet airliners from Columbus, Ohio, to Phnom Penh.

Waiting for him in the Cambodian capital were not only his aging parents but nearly 40 other relatives. Word had spread, and they trekked from remote villages and towns across Cambodia for a reunion with the handsome returnee packing T-shirts, U.S. slang and high-tech gadgetry.

Together, three generations posed for his video cameras within the former royal palace compound against a backdrop of guardian lions in stone and mythic angels.

There were toddlers, young parents and the deeply wrinkled, who could remember this place as a haven of peace and tradition before the Cambodian war, Khmer Rouge terror, Vietnamese invasion and all the en-

suing conflict ripped the country apart.

"When I stepped off the plane and they were all there, I could say nothing," Yan Ke said. "And I nearly cried when I saw my ruined country. They need everything."

Yan Ke was a high school student in the Northwestern province of Battambang when Khmer Rouge guerrillas routed the U.S.-backed government in 1975 and turned the country into a murderous slave-labor camp.

Like many strong teen-agers he was separated from his parents and assigned to a work brigade. Payment for backbreaking labour in the fields amounted to several spoonfuls of rice mixed with water and vegetable scraps.

An uncle, a cousin and several other relatives were among the hundreds of thousands killed by the Communists in their primitive revolution.

At night he would listen to victims being taken away to die and hear the thud of blunt instruments against human flesh. Yan Ke said he still has nightmares about one boy from his brigade who kept a shoulder bag he had accidentally found in the forest. This "criminal" was brought before the assembled brigade workers; then his throat was cut and his stomach slit open.

Yan Ke thought his turn had come when friends told him the Khmer Rouge were angry over a brief conversation with a pretty former school friend. He resolved to be shot trying to flee rather than be slaughtered.

In 1979, with Vietnamese troops scattering the Khmer Rouge, Yan Ke was able to bolt.

At a furtive family reunion amid the mounting chaos it was decided that he and a three-year-old nephew, Vooun Ke, would try to make it to the Thai border. Another brother and two sisters would remain behind to care for the parents.

The two reached the border after three days of walking, but along the way robbers discovered his only valuables: bits of gold he had concealed in a pack of cigarettes.

For more than a year, Yan Ke and his nephew lived in swelling refugee camps in Thailand and the Philippines. Then, with the help of a Catholic charity, they arrived in the United States and in 1981 settled in Columbus, where 2,500 other Cambodians have found homes.

Yan Ke worked as a machine operator in a steel mill, then got a job in the state employment office, where he helps refugees, immigrants and unemployed Americans find jobs. He also earned a bachelor's degree in computer science and developed a home repair business in his spare time.

Still single, he lives with his nephew in one of four apartments that he owns.

"It was tough being a father without any experience, but I've learned," says Yan Ke, proudly announcing that his charge is a fifth-grade representative in his school's student council and a star pupil. He prefers hamburgers to rice and is forgetting the Cambodian language.

Like many Cambodians and other Indochinese refugees, Yan Ke sent thousands of dollars to his parents and relatives over the

years. Recently he decided the time was perhaps right for a homecoming.

"Some of my Cambodian friends said I was crazy, and the U.S. state department warned that they could not help me if I got into trouble," Yan Ke said.

But he also knew that small but steady numbers of Cambodians had been returning over the past year and a half and were well-received by authorities eager for them to bring in dollars and take out positive impressions. Some of the quarter-million Cambodians who have fled their homeland since the mid-1970s are planning to invest in import-export businesses and tourism.

Yan Ke is still wary. Despite recent liberalisation and prospects of a settlement to the Cambodian conflict, Communists are in control and Khmer Rouge guerrillas pose a threat from outside.

"Many still don't trust the situation," he said. "But I'd like overseas Cambodians to become more involved in helping the people here, especially the children."

Between long talks, sightseeing and showing a video of Vooun Ke to his nephew's parents, Yan Ke and another Cambodian-American returned visitor visited schools without books and clinics with few medicines. They plan to raise money in Ohio to help a clinic.

"It's enough suffering. We need a break," Yan Ke said one night in Phnom Penh. "Look at those who were born in the Khmer Rouge era and weren't as lucky as my nephew. They have only seen the dark side of life."

Kurosawa shares his dreams with the world on the screen

By Elaine Kortenbach
The Associated Press

HOTAKA — Akira Kurosawa has spent 46 years using his genius as a film director, editor and writer to create painfully realistic portrayals of human nature.

In "dreams," his new film now in production, the acclaimed director plans to recreate his dreams to reach audiences living in a modern world.

"The feelings which lie sleeping in our hearts, the secret hopes which we keep hidden deep inside, and the dark wishes and fears ... manifest themselves honestly in our dreams," says the 79-year-old director.

"Dreams" is a series of nine episodes ranging from an idyllic village scene to a terrifying nightmare of nuclear holocaust. Kurosawa's legendary insistence on perfection is evident amid the watery fields of green mustard which mirror snow-capped peaks he finally found in central Japan.

Large blue and green reflectors are shifted to and fro to capture the sunlight. Men in wetsuits splash through a stream swollen by melting snow, arranging water plants and snagging trash before it floats by. Other staffers scramble up and down banks, arranging the foliage.

Finally, the sun breaks out of the clouds.

"Start," assistant director Takashi Koizumi shouts.

A brightly costumed funeral procession dances along the tree-lined path beside the stream, accompanied by musicians playing drums, flutes and cymbals.

"Cut" shouts Kurosawa. "One

more time" Blue jean-clad Akira Terao, who plays Kurosawa in all but two of the dreams, stands patiently as scattered flower petals are collected and dancers return to position. A crane lifts a tree branch out of the way.

"We'll do the real shooting now," Kurosawa says.

As Terao, who has wandered into a strange village, watches the procession, an elderly man in a straw hat and orange apron, played by Chishu Ryu, explains that the villagers are celebrating, rather than mourning, the death of a 99-year-old woman who has led a fulfilling life.

cluding scriptwriting and set design, he exercises almost total control, producer Yoshio Inoue said.

Long hours in the darkroom have made Kurosawa's eyes sensitive to light, obliging him to wear his trademark sunglasses and cap.

Kurosawa walks slowly and his hands shake ever so slightly as he lights a cigarette, but he remains tall and hearty, clad in sneakers, faded jeans and a blue-striped shirt.

"Human hearts have been lost along with nature. I am nostalgic for a good environment and good

With assistance from the production company of U.S. director George Lucas, known for his work on the "Star Wars" science fiction films, Kurosawa will use special effects for the first time in the Mount Fuji sequence.

In "Dreams" Kurosawa once again shares his philosophy of humanism, described by friend and translator Audie Bock as the belief that "man must fight to retain hope in the midst of this hopeless world, and in this fight all men are brothers."

Kurosawa's most "wonderful dream" shows television announcers shouting that world peace has finally come.

Despite its universal themes and foreign funding, \$10.7 million of which is being supplied by U.S. director Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment, in cooperation with Lucas' Industrial Light and Magic-Lucas Co., Kurosawa says "Dreams" is directed mainly at Japan.

"I'd like to fix Japan," he says. "The government is 'despicable,'" he says, and the Japanese film industry is only concerned with making money.

"The movie business is in terrible shape. Directors only make what they think will sell. They need to come up with good films that people will love," he says.

Kurosawa says he already has an idea for his next film, but won't tell.

"Someone might steal it," he says. "If it's good, that's OK, but I usually wouldn't like the results."

"I hope to stay healthy and keep working up to 103 years old. It's really fun. I really enjoy doing this," he says. "All films are dreams for a director."

"Human hearts have been lost along with nature. I am nostalgic for a good environment and good hearts."

"Something strange floated down the river. Do it again," Kurosawa shouts.

Kurosawa began his career in 1943 amid censorship and economic limitations imposed by World War II. In his memoirs, he says he learned to thrive under restrictions from deadlines and budgets, which forced him to develop new techniques.

To film quickly and effectively, he began the innovative use of two or more cameras on every set — here one is in a tree and a second is above a mustard field.

The actors rehearse repeatedly until Kurosawa feels they are camera-ready.

The director edits his films as they are shot and shows them to his staff only after the first cuts are made. Having mastered most of the skills of filmmaking, in-

hearts," he said while discussing "dreams."

"This is a beautiful spot, a very gorgeous river. But we had to look all over Japan to find a river like this. That's how much nature is lost," he says. "It's really sad."

In other vignettes, the movie depicts dreams of fairy tales, a blizzard, a dark tunnel of madness. He imagines stepping into a painting of Vincent Van Gogh, played by U.S. director Martin Scorsese, and meeting the 19th century Dutch artist himself.

He left out one puzzling dream about a hippopotamus walking through a sliding door, he says.

His most terrifying nightmare is "Mount Fuji in red," showing the dreamer stranded in hellish confusion as the great volcano melts down after a nuclear plant explosion.

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Young West Germans find natural idyll in Portugal

By Rebecca Irvin
Reuters

BENSAFRIM — When 29-year-old Trudi heard of the Chernobyl nuclear accident in the Soviet Union, she thought it was only a matter of time before something similar happened in her native West Germany.

So she moved from Stuttgart with her two children to an abandoned farmhouse deep in the woods of the Monchique Hills in Portugal's southern Algarve region.

"This is one of the few European countries with no nuclear power plants. Life is so much healthier here. It is still possible to live naturally," she told reporters.

Her house has no running water or electricity, but a nearby stream provides water for drinking and cooking, which she does over a wood stove.

Traudi, who requested anonymity because she is not a legal resident, is one of thousands of West Germans aged 18 to 40 who see Portugal as one of the last natural idylls in Europe.

Increasing numbers are heading for the isolated hill regions of southern Portugal, where the local — mainly peasant — population looks on them with a mixture of friendliness and bewilderment. The Algarve region is best known for its beaches, but just a bit further inland lie thickly forested, uninhabited hills and valleys, many of which can only be reached on foot or by four-wheel drive vehicle.

The young people, called by the Lisbon daily Europa the "new conquistadors" and who include self-avowed anarchists, mystics or just plain "selbstversorger" (who grow all their own food), give similar reasons for leaving West Germany.

These are fears of nuclear energy, and worries about pollution,



Young West Germans looking for fun in the sun

dying forests, heavy industrialisation and the emptiness of life in one of Europe's richest countries.

"There is not a single square metre of land in Germany which is not developed or spoken for," said Hubert Mueller, who several years ago bought a 10-hectare farm near this southern town to grow organic (chemically untreated) produce.

"You can no longer eat berries or mushrooms from our forests because they are poisoned by pollution," he said.

Many of the new settlers, who buy or rent land or just squat, come from the industrialised south of Germany, including Bavaria and Swabia, or Berlin. Jurgen, a 26-year-old former oil trader who has bought a few hectares of land with his wife and baby son, said: "Life is much freer here. In Germany, if you don't have a 'schein' (certificate) stating your profession, you are nothing."

The Portuguese often look on the Germans with puzzlement, mainly because some of them rarely bathe or cut their hair and can sometimes be seen naked on beaches.

"It's what they call going 'natural,'" shrugged Jose Manuel Silva, a local supermarket owner.

Despite the clash of Northern European "alternative" lifestyle with traditional Portuguese culture, residents seem surprisingly tolerant of their new neighbours, who also include some British and Dutch expatriates.

"We are generally very open towards outsiders. But they have money and the locals will always hope to get something out of

them," said lawyer Cristiano Cirol, who has helped many foreigners buy land.

Authorities may disagree. Very few of the West Germans, baffled by bureaucracy and language difficulties, say they have their residency papers in order.

The guarda fiscal, or tax and customs police, seem to wage a running battle with new residents, carefully tracking down cars which stay in Portugal longer than the allowed six months.

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OUT OF BOUNDS

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Brigitte Nielsen
in
BYE BYE BABY

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Egyptian parliament begins debate on low-deficit budget

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian parliament opened debate Saturday on a 1989-90 draft budget with a sharply reduced deficit to meet a key demand by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Finance Minister Mohammed Al Razaz, presenting the draft to the 458-member People's Assembly, pledged that the government would continue economic reforms to cut public spending.

The draft put the gross budget deficit at 4.9 billion pounds (\$1.9 billion), down from the record 7.2 billion pounds (\$2.8 billion) in the financial year ending June 30. Egypt, burdened with foreign debts estimated at \$30 billion, is about to enter fresh talks with the IMF on a package of economic reforms.

The government hopes an IMF team due in Cairo this month will approve a letter of intent enabling it to go to Paris Club of creditor nations to reschedule debt payments of \$4 billion due between last July 1 and the end of 1989.

The budget documents, made available to Reuters, put domestic and foreign debt commitments

for 1989-90 at 5.9 billion pounds (\$2.3 billion) at the official exchange rate of 2.57 pounds to the dollar.

Payments already rescheduled under a 1987 agreement with the IMF would be channelled to a special bank account to be used after different grace periods.

The draft estimated that government revenues would rise to 25.4 billion pounds (\$9.88 billion) from 21.5 billion (\$8.36 billion) in 1988-89.

It put expenditure at 30.3 billion pounds (\$11.78 billion) against 28.7 billion pounds (\$11.16 billion) in the current year.

Razaz said the budget deficit would be partly financed by domestic and foreign borrowing. The net deficit was estimated at 660 million pounds (\$256 million).

Higher subsidies

Despite the reduced deficit, the draft would increase government subsidies for the poor by 13.7 per cent to 2.06 billion pounds (\$800 million).

The government has vowed not to bow to IMF pressures to scrap subsidies, fearing a repetition of food riots in 1977 when dozens of people were killed following price rises which were later rescinded.

The budget documents envisaged a balance of payments deficit of 1.8 billion pounds (\$700 million) against 2.6 billion pounds (about \$1 billion) in 1988-89.

But they predicted the trade deficit would rise slightly to 14.7 billion pounds (\$5.71 billion) from 14.4 billion (\$5.60 billion).

The draft forecast that gross domestic product (GDP) would rise by 5.2 per cent in 1989-90, the third year of a development plan, to 47.8 billion pounds (\$18.6 billion).

It envisaged gross national product (GNP) rising to 86.5 billion pounds (\$33.6 billion) from 82.4 billion pounds (\$32.1 billion).

Rising unemployment



Kamal Ganzouri

A statement by Planning Minister Kamal Ganzouri to parliament put the national unemployment rate in 1988-89 at seven per cent, up from 5.6 per cent the previous year.

He said the government estimated that the number of people without work would increase from 972,000 to about 1.1 million in the new fiscal year.

Unofficial figures have put the number of jobless people as high as three million.

Ganzouri said the government expected public and private investments of 14.5 billion pounds (\$5.6 billion) in 1989-90 to create about 370,000 jobs.

But he said about 480,000 people would join the work force in the same period.

to rise substantially.

"Also, the arguments between the pro-state radicals and the pro-private sector people are far from over," one diplomat said.

One sign of a more liberal regime was Rafsanjani's statement that Islamic revolutionary limits on foreign borrowing would be eased, provided repayment was matched with income from the projects they financed.

Diplomats put Iran's current foreign debt at between \$6 and \$10 billion. The inflation rate, estimated at between 20 and 40 per cent a year this decade, has far outstripped the rise in wages.

Drift of jobs

Crowds of jobless youths now drift around Tehran's bazaar. The unemployment rate, officially put at 15.9 per cent, could be as high as 40 per cent.

Soldiers gradually being demobilised after last August's ceasefire in the war with Iraq compete for the available jobs with their young brothers.

A census in 1986 showed that 45 per cent of the population was aged under 15.

Officials are worried that the growth rate in the population, at more than three per cent of the highest in the world, will severely strain the frayed infrastructure.

Agricultural output has remained static and is threatened by increasingly scarce water supplies and a stalemate on land reform laws.

A mosque-based rationing system from the war is likely to keep the poor well fed into the near future, but diplomats say the large subsidies will undermine the budget.

A small dollar-rich class still lives in north Tehran but most recognise that they are dinosaurs of a species swept away by the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Reflections on tourism in Jordan

By Munir Nassar

AMMAN — As one of many thousands in our society whose livelihood depends entirely on tourism, I am gratified, though sadly, that the economic difficulties Jordan is facing has caused an almost unanimous awakening to the vital role tourism can play in replenishing our foreign reserves and create hundreds of new jobs; not to forget the tremendous potential of local and foreign capital investment opportunities in many sectors of this industry.

In fact, one of the most encouraging trends I have noticed during the last few weeks is the strong commitment among many in the private sector to invest in various projects. One hears of new hotels planned in Aqaba and Petra, long overdue renovations and extensions to existing facilities, new restaurants and other entertainment outlets, international fairs and events.

But, lest we make the same mistakes other developing economies agonised through in their haste to build a tourism industry or increase their tourism receipts overnight, and to learn from our past experience, it may be worth all our while to sit back briefly and reflect on some truths, facts, assumptions and theories that may help light up the way to an obvious goal of a healthy, dynamic, ever-growing fully integrated tourism industry.

Statistics

The income a country derives from tourism is affected by the total number of visitors, the average length of stay, and the average spend per tourist. In the figures published by the Central Bank of Jordan, I understand that the formula for estimating the average spend is one that was built on very old economic and financial figures, and may be far from giving an accurate indicator of how much the country actually earns.

Such figures are not needed to give ourselves a pat on the shoulder, but to act as a yardstick in measuring performance and determining ways and means to further enhance growth in the industry.

Demographics are also essential to judge the effectiveness of marketing campaigns, where best to concentrate promotional efforts and the allocation of scarce funds.

At this stage, it is imperative that funds and personnel are allocated to conduct an in-depth research during the next six months that will reexamine the points mentioned above, as well as other matters of relevance to the continued growth of this industry.

I hasten to add that my suggestion does not call for foreign expertise to be imported at great cost in order to conduct this survey, as I have no doubt at all that we have enough local talent (certainly amongst the staff of the ministries of tourism and planning and the Department of Statistics) to perform this job very adequately.

Industry components and their role in development

The tourism product, not unlike other products, is the result of the collective efforts of several segments of the industry. On one side, you have the group of suppliers of services such as hotels, restaurants, guides, land transportation companies, airlines, souvenir shops, horse and camel-owners, car rental firms. On the other side you have tourist agencies whose primary role is to design tourist

products, contract for the various components, and market such products in the world.

Complementing these two groups are the various government agencies such as the Ministry of Tourism, the Immigration and Customs departments, the various Jordanian embassies and the Department of Civil Aviation.

The one major difference between these three groupings is that the first two are motivated by profit, whilst the third has to address the wider picture of the general good to the society and the country.

This is not just a statement of the obvious; it underlines a very basic principle, namely that of the importance of total and complete coordination between all the various segments of this industry for it to surge forward and fulfill our aspirations. It is wrong to assume that any one segment can act independently and succeed.

The complexity of the tourist product becomes obvious when one considers the multitude of things that must happen at the right time and place, and in the correct sequence, before a tourist decides to book a holiday to Jordan.

The picture becomes even more intricate when one aims at ensuring that the expectations this tourist has of his visit to Jordan are fulfilled, and he returns to his country a happy and satisfied customer willing to spread the Gospel.

What is very essential for all parties to realise that none can act independent from all others, and that any service poorly rendered by any one of the suppliers will sour all other components. Human nature is such that one remembers the bad things and takes the good things for granted.

In short, utter and complete coordination every step of the way is most essential.

Monopoly is a dirty word

A close look at the industry in countries where tourism sustained a healthy growth in tourist arrivals over the last two decades (typical examples are Austria, Greece, Spain) is bound to show that competition amongst members of the same discipline is encouraged. In fact, it is the one single factor that ensures the maintenance of a high standard of services provided to the visitor (without which no growth is possible), at reasonable prices.

Exclusivity of any sort is unheard of, and laws are in force to see that no cartelling exists. Monopoly is a dirty word.

Small business is encouraged. In Austria, the number of small family-run hotels and pensions exceed that of larger establishments.

Ministry of Tourism

Apart from the execution of legislation adopted by the government, the Ministry of Tourism must assume full and complete responsibility for overseeing all the segments involved in the process. At present, several other government agencies are involved in licensing, price-fixing and supervision of airlines, hotels, restaurants, etc.

The ministry must involve all suppliers, both public and private, in recommending legislation and a code of ethics, setting industry standards and practices, determining an inter-disciplinary code of conduct, deciding on long-term marketing objectives and strategies and implementing same and assuring an on-going performance appraisal. In fact, the ministry must encourage each segment to develop a self-disciplinary process that allows a supplier to be

judged by his equals.

Urgent issue

One urgent issue that needs to be addressed by the Ministry of Tourism, in close cooperation with all industry segments, is the definition of clear objectives as well as a long-term marketing strategy to take us into the 21st Century. This requirement emphasises again the importance of statistics I mentioned earlier as it is these statistics that provide the foundations on which a strategy can be built.

Marketing

Of all the above, and in view of the huge increase in the number of tourist arrivals to Jordan during the last 12 months, the most important activity that must be addressed by all is "MARKETING".

I understand that the Ministry of Tourism is considering at present this issue with the view of establishing an autonomous body that will address the long term objectives, as well as consider means of sustaining this growth and capitalise on the popularity of Jordan as a tourist destination, a popularity that has emerged very strongly in many origin markets.

It is impossible to divorce the tourism marketing process from that of the image-building. There are many examples in the recent past where multi-million marketing campaigns ran aground because of a negative image of the country or city concerned.

Consider the effect of the Miami riots a few years ago, the oil spill in the English Channel and what it did to French tourism in Brittany.

We are already at a disadvantage, in the eyes of the Western tourist, by being right smack in the heart of the Middle East, an area identified with turmoil, wars and civil strife, not to mention terrorism (a word that the Western media made synonymous with Arab). As a result, a one-man demonstration anywhere in this part of the world takes on the proportions of an all-out civil disobedience campaign and a protest march becomes a bloody civil war.

Ministry of Information

The Ministry of Information, whose primary task I assume is the image-building process, must work very closely with the Ministry of Tourism. Together, they must identify the right image to be projected to the world, and establish contingency plans to face up to negative factors and minimise their effect on the tourist flow.

Another vital role both ministries must play is to awaken the public to the importance of tourism to the economy of the country and to refute the myth that tourism is "hazardous to our moral, religious and social values." The vast majority of visitors who come to Jordan are people genuinely interested in the historical and cultural attractions we have to offer.

Burial committees

The common belief that committees are just another way of burying things under a mountain of red tape is only partially true. Committees, as we know them, usually generate an endless stream of recommendations that are then passed on to other committees and so on.

However, to implement the coordination required for a dynamic tourism industry, one needs an executive committee that can take decisions and see them through. Such a committee must include a representa-

tive of each of the government agencies involved in the tourism process.

Royal Jordanian

National air carriers of most tourist destination countries play an important role in the marketing process. They offer the largest number of seats to the destination from most origin markets. They are the first physical contact that a visitor has with the country he is going to.

Royal Jordanian is a typical example of such carriers. Even though exact figures are not available, yet it is a known fact that Royal Jordanian carries the largest number of tourist arrivals to the country.

During the last two decades, and to varying degrees, our national carrier has promoted the many attractions of the country in all parts of the world. This has been at a great cost to the airline, both in terms of the direct cost of such promotions and the loss of revenue by assigning seats for such traffic rather than selling them on longer routes which would have generated more revenue to the airline.

Despite this fact, it was often felt that the airline should do more to promote tourism, specifically by assigning more seats on their European services to Amman. As a result and since late 1987, Royal Jordanian put even more emphasis on promotion of tourism to Jordan, offering more seats at very competitive prices to group travel to Amman.

This policy has suited the foreign carriers very well, leaving the low-yield business to Royal Jordanian to carry while they concentrated on other segments (such as first, business and full economy travel) that generate more revenue. With the economic hardships in the country last year, and the subsequent drop in traffic originating in Jordan, these carriers (a total of six) face a dilemma. Indeed, one of them had to reduce the frequency of its services to once weekly.

And yet, these carriers offer a total capacity of more than 6,000 seats weekly to Amman, a capacity that is by far not utilised fully. With very few exceptions, these airlines spend all their marketing budgets and efforts in increasing their shares of the local market. With the prevalent market conditions, they have the choice of either reducing their frequencies (a bitter choice for many) or follow an aggressive marketing policy that will generate inbound traffic to Jordan.

The second alternative must be the obvious choice as it is bound to increase the traffic on their routes to Amman as well as the number of visitors to Jordan.

Representation

However, such carriers may require financial and logistical marketing support from the Ministry of Tourism, and same should be provided. This may translate into the government reconsidering its decision to appoint Royal Jordanian as the official representative of tourism worldwide and repatriating this responsibility back to the Ministry of Tourism.

Editor's note: Obviously there are other aspects to tourism that have not been tackled in the above article. The Jordan Times encourages the readers to express their own views on tourism or any other economic subjects.

Iranians want money after spiritual comfort

TEHRAN (R) — In Iran, where a lieutenant colonel may drive a taxi to make ends meet, reconstruction of a war-crippled economy is the top priority after the death of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

"No way can I get by on my salary," said one such serving officer. "Before the revolution, I could have bought this car with a few months work. Now I can barely afford the spare parts."

After 10 years of revolutionary upheaval and eight years of war with Iraq, Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) is only about two-thirds of its 1977 level.

Spiritual medication

"Khomeini could give the peo-

ple spiritual comforts to forget the difficulties. Now he's gone and the people are hungry for change," one Western diplomat said.

Many ordinary Iranians are now prepared to complain. Unemployment and inflation rates are high and foreign currency is short.

"At the top of our programmes are the economic problems of the country and the people," said Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani, expected to be elected executive president in August, said the next decade of the revolution would be devoted to reconstruction, a bill officials estimate will run to over \$90 billion.

'Bungling and bullying'

He said "bungling and bullying" by the West meant it might not win a place in the race for contracts.

Instead, Iran was discussing a wide-ranging pact with the Soviet Union, part of what diplomats said was a trend towards economic links with Eastern Bloc countries.

With little city building done in the past 10 years, much of the infrastructure is ageing although basic telephone, power and water services still work.

But factories built in the early 1980s in hope of an early end to the war are now dilapidated with-

out ever having seen full production.

Idle industry

Iranian sources and diplomats estimate industry is running at an average of one third to one half of capacity.

"In one town I visited recently, virtually none of the 490 factories was working at all," said one Iranian economist.

Critical to industry is a lack of cash to import machinery and raw materials as the state budget swallows up oil income, expected to reach \$12 billion in the year to March 1990.

Oil earns 90 per cent of Iran's foreign exchange and dollars are so scarce that they cost 1,400 riyals each on the black market against an official rate of 73.65 riyals.

A tangle of bureaucratic restrictions exacerbates the problem. One industrialist said that, to get plastic to make dolls, he had to import car light mouldings and melt them down.

Rafsanjani said the government would follow a new five-year plan now before parliament. The plan, which would liberalise the state-dominated economy and ease foreign trade restrictions, sets targets of 5.7 per cent a year growth in GDP and 8.7 per cent in investment.

Some diplomats said proposals to cut expenditure and raise revenue were unrealistic. They noted that plans for a new value added tax had been postponed and social spending was budgeted

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

ICO fires fifth of staff

RIYADH (R) — The Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) is firing a fifth of its staff because most member states have failed to pay their contributions, a Saudi Arabian newspaper has reported. The Saudi Gazette said the ICO, a pan-Islamic organisation based in Jeddah, is firing 26 out of 130 employees, ranging from a director to a gardener.

Moi refuses to head drunken nation

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi has banned the drinking and brewing of traditional beer, declaring he did not want to rule a nation of drunks. Kenya already bans traditional distillation of spirits and has tried to control sales of traditional beer, which is brewed from a variety of grains, although both are still easy to buy. "I am not prepared to lead a drunken nation at any cost," Moi told a political rally in the western Kenya town of Kericho.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

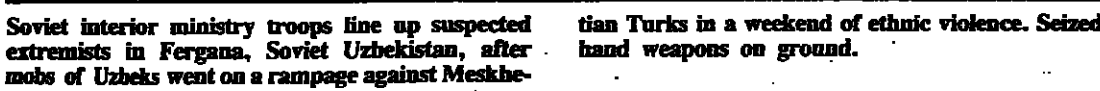
Sunday, June 11, 1989 Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Sell	
Swiss franc	206.2	209.5	
French franc	83.7	84.5	
Japanese yen (for 100)	388.8	393.7	
Dutch guilder	251.7	254.2	
Swedish crown	94.4	95.2	
Italian lira (for 100)	39.1	39.5	
Belgian franc (for 10)	125.5	126.9	
U.S. dollar	205.9	212.9	
Pound Sterling	282.2	281.0	
Deutschmark	283.5	286.3	

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Unrest in the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan has been brought under control, but at least 100 people have died in a week of clashes pitting Uzbeks against minority Meskhetians, newspapers said Sunday.

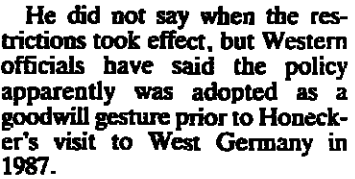
The army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda reported that about 100 people died in the first new days of the disturbances, in which Uzbeks hunted down and killed Meskhetians — Turkified Georgians deported to Central Asia by several hundred Meskhetians out of Uzbekistan.

Reports also said that the unrest, the worst in several decades in the Soviet Union, was threatening to spill over into the neighbouring Republic of Tajikis-

Earlier reports had said about 100 people suffered gunshot wounds in Kokand Friday in a rampage by 5,000 people armed with automatic rifles and pistols.



Questioned on Bush's call to "lock in" reductions in tanks, artillery, armed personnel carriers and other non-nuclear forces



"This means we can count not just on a British-Polish action but

The Communist Party suffered crushing defeats at the hands of the relegalised Solidarity movement in the most liberal elections ever in the Soviet bloc. Many

defeated in fully-free elections expected in 1993, he replied: "Anything is possible in the world," but added: "It would be on my part inconceivable for me to declare its capitulation."

"I do believe that my party is capable of strengthening its position and improving its style of work to continue to occupy a ranking position on the Polish political map. I don't want to include in my calculations at all the possibility that the party could lose," he said.

The FBI would not release the men's names or any information about them.

However, Magda Kovacs Kosa, who represented this third negotiating partner at Saturday's news conference, said the groups included official trade unions, the

Lanka, India, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Indonesia and Macau hold short-term work permits, most of them valid for two years.

MOSCOW (R). The Soviet army, seeing new civilian uses for old T-55 tanks and other vehicles, is selling off outdated military hardware at discount prices, a Soviet weekly reported Friday. "Converted military hardware can be used as tow tractors, cranes with high cross-country capacity and fire engines, as well as for hammering piles and logging in mountainous areas," V. Romanov, of the main armoured forces department, said in an interview in the weekly Argument I Fakti. "At the request of the Western-Siberian Railway management we have assigned several tanks to work at the railway and a few tanks were given to the Russian Federation's road ministry," he added. Romanov said another 100 tanks, which are generally being sold off at one third of the new price, had been handed over to military-patriotic clubs and associations to improve training for young men for army service. However, it appeared unlikely the machines would go sale to private motorists, who currently face a long wait if they want to buy a Lada, Moskvich or other car.

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Tanzania's chimpanzees, prey to poachers who capture and smuggle them abroad for sale as exotic pets, could be wiped out in the next few years, the country's wildlife department says. Wildlife director Costa May said that Tanzania's chimpanzee population had been halved over the last 15 years to just 2,000. In a report released this week, he said poachers set out to capture young chimpanzees but many adults were killed when they tried to prevent the capture of their offspring. May said tighter controls on international trade in wild animals were needed to protect the remaining chimpanzees.

MR. MAX				GENEVA						
°C	°F	°F	Weather	°C	°F	°F	Weather			
AMSTERDAM	10	50	21	70	Clear	11	52	21	70	Cloudy
ATHENS	20	68	31	88	Clear	23	77	29	84	Clear
BAPPAIN	27	81	39	100	Clear	24	75	29	84	Clear
BANGOR	07	41	39	100	Clear	12	54	23	73	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	23	81	30	80	Clear	16	60	20	68	Cloudy
CAIRO	19	65	32	90	Clear	18	30	24	75	Clear
CHICAGO	14	55	29	85	Rain	26	72	42	108	Clear
COPENHAGEN	27	81	39	100	Clear	13	55	29	84	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	27	81	39	100	Clear	18	61	29	84	Cloudy
COPTENHAGEN	27	81	39	100	Clear	31	86	34	93	Cloudy
COPTENHAGEN	25	77	14	57	Sky	15	59	27	81	Clear